

# AYLESBURY TOWN

Aylesbury Town Council Magazine  
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# matters

*Serving the people of Aylesbury*



**'Take pride in Aylesbury Town'**

[www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk)



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*than just*  
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*visitors*



**Aylesbury Visitor Information Centre**

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**t: 01296 330559**



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## Welcome Note

“ Welcome to the latest issue of **Aylesbury Town Matters**. We hope that by the time you read this the weather will be improving and you'll be looking forward to making the most of another packed programme of events we have lined up for this year.

We begin with our celebration of St George's Day on 27 April, which has become a firm favourite with people of all ages and backgrounds since the Town Council rightly decided to make our National Day a reason to celebrate in 2002. This and many other events are listed on page 4 where you will also find a review of last year's events.

Many of us still remember the joy and pride we all shared with the UK hosting the Olympics and Paralympics in 2012. Stoke Mandeville Hospital played a big part as we know, giving all Aylesburians a huge sense of pride as the whole world's eyes were on us, and our town delivered all that was expected and more. The Paralympic legacy will not be forgotten, it will be built on, with exciting things happening right here in 2014. Some details to whet your appetite are on page 15.

On the subject of sport, rugby is a big passion for myself and my children, and we are regular visitors to London Wasps just down the road in Wycombe. It's just great that a top-flight and professionally run club still cares so much about retaining and growing its community roots; even more exciting is the news that Wasps' Community Foundation is moving even closer to Aylesbury, bringing sporting inspiration and opportunities to more local men and women, boys and girls of all ages. Read more from Wasps' Dave Larham on page 19.

This is not just the Town Council's magazine, we are always keen to devote space in our pages to all kinds of other local organisations, events and people that are making a positive difference to our town. Read more in the rest of this magazine, and – even better – if you've got something to say that you think the town would like to hear, feel free to get in touch with us using the contact details on page 8. ”

Very best wishes to you all

Councillor Mike Smith  
Leader of Aylesbury Town Council

Aylesbury Town Council is a member of English Historic Towns Forum and twinned with Bourg-en-Bresse.



## Contact Details

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All photos throughout the magazine courtesy of Barbara Cunningham, Maurice Cousins, David Pustansky and Russ Naylor

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[www.bpdesigns.co.uk](http://www.bpdesigns.co.uk)



We hope you enjoyed a fantastic year of events. Here's what's in store for 2014...

Sunday 27 April

**St George's Fun Day & Parade**

Market Square, 11.00am - 4.00pm

Sunday 1 June

**RAF Halton Freedom Parade**

Market Square, time tbc

Sunday 15 June

**Father's Day**

Market Square, 11.00am - 4.00pm

Sunday 6 July

**Aylesbury On Sea**

Kingsbury, 11.00am - 4.00pm

Sunday 24 August

**Hobble on the Cobbles**

Market Square & Kingsbury  
12.00 noon - 8.00pm

Thursday 28 August

**Bucks County Show**

Bucks County Showground

Saturday 30 August

**Proms in the Park**

Vale Park, 6.30pm picnic, 7.15pm concert

Sunday 31 August

**Parklife**

Vale Park, 12.00 noon - 8.00pm

Sunday 14 September

**Tudor Fayre**

Market Square & Bucks County Museum  
11.00am - 4.00pm

Thursday 30 October

**Halloween Event**

Market Square, time tbc

Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 November

**Villains of Aylesbury**

Times tbc

Sunday 14 December

**Christmas Fair & Carolfest**

Market Square, 11.00am - 4.00pm  
6.00pm - 7.00pm

## ATC News

### Looking Back on 2013's Events

On a bright sunny Sunday in April, Aylesbury celebrated **St George** with a **Fun Day and Scout Parade**. The main attraction was Broughton Junior School's fierce, bubble-breathing dragon, who left St George quaking in his boots.

In July we transported the seaside to Kingsbury for **Aylesbury On Sea**. One of the town centre's most popular free events brought a large crowd of happy families to the square to enjoy some traditional entertainment.

**Hobble on the Cobbles** made a welcome return to Aylesbury. The town centre was host to four stages and a great selection of local bands. The day ended with a performance by the popular 60s band The Searchers.

Late September saw a weekend full of music, fun and entertainment in Vale Park. Record crowds gathered for an explosive finale to the summer for our annual **Proms in the Park**. The following day, visitors enjoyed fine weather, local food, performances and workshops from local groups. Our **Parklife** weekend ended with an evening of live music from three local bands.

Our **Tudor Fayre** took place at The Bucks County Museum. The celebrations started in Market Square, where pupils from Broughton Junior School danced before Henry VIII, and Court Jester Peterkin the Fool entertained the onlooking crowds. We filled every nook and cranny of the museum with fun; including period music, games, mad experiments, birds of prey, archery and duelling knights.

We were all in the spirit of things for our first-ever **Halloween Variety Show**. From start to finish the show was jam-packed with spookily themed sketches, song and dance, ghoulish music and madcap magic.

It was another sell-out year for our **Villains of Aylesbury** walking play (formerly Ghouls and Villains). Gessi returned once again to the streets of Aylesbury, taking you deeper than ever into the town's gruesome history.

Our final event of 2013 was our **Christmas Fair and Carolfest**. This brilliant day of non-stop entertainment included Mr Alexander's Travelling Show, Trundlehonk at Christmas, The Haddenham Mummers and The LuLaLas. Aylesbury Vale Youth For Christ and Aylesbury Lions joined in the fun, and reindeers Holly and Ivy were a big hit with both young and old.

The day ended with **Carolfest**. Dez Kay hosted the evening, introducing The Wingrave Singers for their Carolfest debut. Caduceus Brass Quintet provided the accompaniment, and the Aylesbury Lions and Scouts provided us with welcome refreshments.

**For more details visit [www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk) follow us on twitter [@aylesburytc](https://twitter.com/aylesburytc) or like us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/aylesburytc](https://www.facebook.com/aylesburytc)**





## The First Off-Setting Project in the County is underway in Aylesbury



Photos by Wendy Tobitt and Andy Fairbairn

The Berryfields Farmland Bird Scheme sees AVDC and the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) working together to protect wildlife in the first off-setting project of its kind in the county. They are offering grants (funded by the developers) to landowners in the Berryfields, Oving and Waddesdon areas for projects that will help combat the negative effects of development by creating spaces for biodiversity to thrive.

The first ambitious project has just got underway and will see the equivalent of 40 football pitches of species-rich grassland created on a large rural estate in Buckinghamshire. 720 kilos of wildflower seed, including Common Knapweed, Yellow Rattle, Bird's-foot Trefoil, Lady's Bedstraw, Dropwort and Dyer's Greenweed have been sown. Shallow ponds were also created to provide feeding areas for wading birds such as Curlew.

The area was previously known for overwintering birds such as Lapwing, but not wildflowers or insects. One of the conditions of this particular initiative is that a better area for wildlife is created to compensate for the loss caused by development. Matt Dodds, AVDC Biodiversity Officer, is delighted: "97% of our wildflower meadows have been lost over the last century so this is incredibly significant. We are showing just what can be achieved if permissions for large building projects can be negotiated to also benefit wildlife."

This scheme is well ahead of its time, with funding originally secured 10 years ago before building could be permitted. This is quite something given that the government is only just consulting on this kind of biodiversity off-setting.

## Fingers crossed for more Peregrine breeding!

Will this spring mark the fourth year of our Peregrine Falcons nesting on their platform at County Hall? We do hope so! The birds have sparked global interest in recent years and this year they're in for a treat as their chosen platform has had a makeover.

Major repairs to County Hall during 2013 offered a great opportunity to renew all parts of the platform, which was first erected in 2008. Volunteers from the Aylesbury Peregrine Falcon Project, led by the AVDC Biodiversity Team, carried out the work using kind donations from SERCO.



If our feathered friends deliver the goods, you'll be able to track their progress on the internet, once again – this time with improved

footage and a new web page. It will all be at [www.aylesburyperegrine.org.uk](http://www.aylesburyperegrine.org.uk).

The project has also linked up with the Local Wildlife Trust and Bucks Bird Club and will be running a series of watch events at weekends and through the May half term in 2014.



## Become a Master Composter!

The Buckinghamshire Master Composter Programme is run by Buckinghamshire Local Authorities in conjunction with Garden Organic. Its aim is to encourage people in the county to compost as much of their waste as possible at home, to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, protect the environment and help keep council tax down.



If you enjoy home composting, come and join our network of composting volunteers and help spread the word in Buckinghamshire. We need people like you to share your experience and give advice and encouragement to people in the area who haven't yet realised the benefits of home composting.

**The dates for the next free two day Master Composter courses are Saturday 22 March 2014 and Sunday 23 March 2014.**

**For more information please visit:**

**[www.buckinghamshirepartnership.co.uk/  
recycle-for-buckinghamshire/home-composting/  
master-composters/](http://www.buckinghamshirepartnership.co.uk/recycle-for-buckinghamshire/home-composting/master-composters/)**

**Email: [composting@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:composting@buckscc.gov.uk)  
or call 01296 387797**





## Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital

The Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital has launched its Physiotherapy and Sports Injury Clinic, providing quick, efficient and high quality care for individuals.

The hospital, in the heart of Aylesbury, is well known for its dedication to the rehabilitation and care of people with spinal cord injury and other neurological conditions, but some locals believe that the hospital is for private, overseas patients and out of reach to ordinary residents.

What is less known is the services it provides for individuals requiring immediate high quality care for various needs, including back and neck pain, post-surgical conditions, repetitive strain injuries and work related conditions.

Residents of Aylesbury and further afield can access a range of treatments and therapies as outpatients at very competitive rates. They will benefit from spacious well-equipped facilities not found in a standard physiotherapy practice, with the latest technologies used to fast track results.



The Physiotherapy and Sports Injury Clinic has the only publicly available AlterG anti-gravity treadmill in Bucks, and is used by Oxford United Football Club for its team's

training and rehabilitation. AlterG gives the opportunity to rehabilitate after surgery or train through injury without pain, and is the choice of elite sports men and women worldwide. It is also used by members of the public to help rehabilitate after conditions like stroke.

The 8.5 metre Hydrotherapy Pool is excellent for rehab after injury or surgery. It helps to exercise stiff joints, strengthen muscles and enhance core stability. Hydrotherapy can be used for a number of complaints including arthritis, rheumatism, sciatica, aching joints, back pain, fatigue, insomnia, circulation and stress.



The Clinic is overseen by Senior Physiotherapist Steve Lodge; specialist in sports injuries, rehabilitation techniques and fitness evaluation. He has also been selected as a Lead Physiotherapist for the GB gymnastics team at the forthcoming Commonwealth Games.

Since re-opening under new management last summer, Royal Bucks has re-employed a number of high calibre therapists and health professionals as part of its growing team. All Physiotherapists are registered with the Health Professions and Care Council, and are members of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapists and other professional bodies.

A number of other clinics are also available from Royal Bucks, including Orthopaedics, Psychology and Pain Management services. The facilities of the beautiful Grade II listed building are vast, and the hospital is always interested in partnerships with health related businesses to base their services there.



THE ROYAL BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HOSPITAL

To book an appointment call 01296 678800 or email: [reception@royalbucks.co.uk](mailto:reception@royalbucks.co.uk). Insurance and private clients welcome. [www.royalbucks.co.uk](http://www.royalbucks.co.uk)

# Aylesbury Town Council Grants

If you are involved in a charitable or voluntary organisation in Aylesbury you could apply for a match funded grant from Aylesbury Town Council. Grants can be awarded to support a project, event or service. We are also keen to support young people in sport. Grants are available to help outstanding individuals fulfil their sporting potential. **To find out more visit our website or call 01296 425678.**



## Community Christmas Lunch

For over twenty years a group of volunteers have provided a Christmas meal at St Mary's Church, Aylesbury for local people who, for various reasons, do not want to spend Christmas at home or they are unable to prepare their own Christmas lunch.

The lunch, which took place on Christmas Day between 12 noon and 3.00pm was open to everyone regardless of sex, age, religious belief or any other factors. Guests came because they are homeless, on their own, elderly, recently bereaved, have mental or other health problems, or for any other reason.

The lunch was completely free, and guests enjoyed a three course traditional Christmas meal, music, games, a raffle and even a present delivered by Father Christmas. Transport was arranged for those living in the Aylesbury area.

**Aylesbury Town Council were pleased to award a grant of £1,100 to support the lunch.**

## Buckinghamshire Mind

Buckinghamshire Mind, who in 2014 are celebrating their centenary, work with people who are experiencing anxiety, depression, loss, relationship issues, difficulties with anger, recovery from traumatic events or struggling to cope with the pressures of life. Their Adult Counselling Service is totally reliant on the contributions from clients and charitable funds which they raise themselves.

**Aylesbury Town Council's grant of £2,000 will enable Bucks Mind to offer their adult counselling sessions free to Aylesbury residents that would not normally be in a position to make a financial contribution; in particular those who are unemployed, socially isolated, residents with disabilities and single parents.**

The free sessions will enable individuals to feel valued and allow them to explore issues which may be a barrier to them engaging in the local community.

Ultimately, improving someone's mental health through counselling may contribute to their health and well-being. This may enable them to address a healthy life style, including healthy eating, managing stress and participation in sport or other activities.



## Aylesbury Homeless Action Group

**Aylesbury Homeless Action Group have received a grant of £2,000 from Aylesbury Town Council to help fund the purchase of industrial washing machines that offer a quick facility for washing and drying of homeless clients' clothes.**

Many of their clients do not have either the money or access to a facility to keep their clothes clean. This in turn gives them potential issues in terms of social exclusion, confidence and health issues. The service will help clients regain their dignity as they try to integrate back into normal situations.



**Should you wish to apply for a grant please contact our Grants Administrator, Belle Daytonn on 01296 425678 or if you prefer email: [b.daytonn@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:b.daytonn@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk)**



# Community News & Events



**Are you involved in a local community group or charity in Aylesbury?  
Would you like to promote your work and events?**

This magazine is delivered to every household in Aylesbury Town. For more information call Barbara on 01296 425678 or email: [b.cunningham@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:b.cunningham@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk). There is no charge for community groups and charities.



## Quarrendon Community Café Opens

**An exciting new café has been set up in Quarrendon on Coventon Road at St Peter's Church.**

The idea of the café is to give people a venue to meet others from the local community. This has been set up in conjunction with Aylesbury Vale District Council, SPACE, St Peter's Church and Buckinghamshire County Council.

The café is in its early stages but is open to anyone who would like to attend. The café has a book swap where individuals can either swap a book for a different one or pay a donation and take a book. The organisers are also hoping to introduce a food bank to support those on low incomes who may be struggling to make ends meet.

In the first of the cafés held at St Peter's on the 21st November, and which shall continue every Thursday between 10.30am - 12.00 noon, twelve people attended. The atmosphere was fantastic and people met and chatted to new friends and took advantage of a new book to take home with them.

Refreshments were in great demand and beverages and biscuits enjoyed by all. These were free for the first event, although in future a small charge is to be made for these so that the café can hopefully sustain itself in the coming months. This initial set up was thanks to the generous and kind support of Tesco Broadfields, and also the Community One Stop Shop on Meadowcroft.

We hope the community café will go from strength to strength and really look forward to seeing new faces every week. We are also looking for further ideas of how to expand the community café as well as volunteers to help run the service.

**Please feel free to come to tell us your ideas or register your interest to volunteer for the café.**

## Need a New Year's Resolution? What about Volunteering? Now there's a Solution!



Bucks Stroke Support are looking to recruit volunteers to help support the work Stroke Association coordinators carry out with stroke survivors in Buckinghamshire.

One in six of us will have a stroke, and although more of us are surviving than ever before it is still the largest cause of adult disability. With the support of Buckinghamshire County Council, the Stroke Association is working in Bucks to ensure that stroke survivors and their carers are given the support they need to rebuild their lives.



We are looking for befrienders and peer supporters to help reduce social isolation and improve the confidence and self-esteem of stroke survivors.

If you have excellent listening skills, are empathetic and non-judgemental, then you could be the perfect person to support a client 1:1 either face to face in the client's home or on the phone. If you are reliable and responsible you could help stroke survivors to achieve personal goals and become more independent.

We also run a series of support information sessions and coffee mornings and are looking for help in arranging activities and events.

There are a variety of different opportunities available within Buckinghamshire and all our volunteer opportunities are flexible. Why not give us a call and let us know how you can help our valuable work in the local community.

**Contact us on 0300 3300761 or email:  
[bucksstrokesupport@stroke.org.uk](mailto:bucksstrokesupport@stroke.org.uk)**

**Bucks Stroke Support**



## Worksmart Training

Worksmart Training are a small community interest company who specialise in providing vocational skills training to people who have difficulty accessing the workplace due to disability, neurological conditions and long term health problems.

They provide the opportunity for people to take part in supported voluntary work groups, undertaking voluntary projects for the benefit of the local community.

Worksmart have formed partnerships with a number of local organisations, including Aylesbury College, where they provide on the job work experience for students who are on their 'Preparation for Employment' course. They also work with Bucks Healthcare to facilitate the students gaining work experience at Stoke Mandeville and Amersham Hospitals, where volunteers undertake horticulture projects in the patient's communal garden areas to make the spaces more usable and enjoyable.

Worksmart Training community volunteers are also working in partnership with Buckingham Park Community Centre in Aylesbury, weeding and tidying the plant borders around the community centre, and tidying the small garden area at the rear. There are plans for the volunteers to become involved in the on-going upkeep of these areas, as well as undertaking work in the centre itself to help with the upkeep of the communal areas.

Worksmart actively fundraise to support projects and to provide students with materials that are later donated to the local hospitals. If anybody would like to donate horticulture materials such as plants, planters, soil or tools to Worksmart Training to be used in hospital gardens or other community projects, they would be most grateful to hear from you.



Worksmart are available to offer work experience in a supportive and friendly environment to people in Bucks with disabilities who would like to share in the work experience projects.



They can also offer a range of training in everyday skills such as cooking, looking after yourself and your finances, healthy living, accessing the community for work or leisure, basic IT skills and applying for work.

You can contact Jill or Marion at Worksmart on 07594 036136 to discuss how you may be able to join one of the projects.

## Get set for the return of Florrie's Scootathlon – a 'must' for sporty kids!



Florrie's Scootathlon is back for a third year – a sporty challenge for children aged 4-11, taking place at Stoke Mandeville Stadium on **Bank Holiday Monday 5th May**. The event is in aid of Florrie's Children's Team – a hospice service, fully funded by the Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity which gives home-based care and support to sick children and their families affected by life-limiting illness.



### The event

10.00am will see the event kick-off, with a fun mini triathlon challenge for children aged 4-8, involving a 400m scoot, 400m cycle and a 250m run. This will

be followed by a Duathlon challenge, involving a 400m run, 800m cycle and another 400m run for children aged 9-11.

To enter visit [www.scootathlon.org](http://www.scootathlon.org), call 01296 429975, pop in to any Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity shop in Aylesbury, Winslow, Wendover, Leighton Buzzard or Chinnor, or visit: [www.fnhospice.org.uk](http://www.fnhospice.org.uk)



## Rennie Grove Hospice Care's Chilterns Cycle Challenge

On **Sunday 23rd March 2014** join Rennie Grove Hospice Care for the Chilterns Cycle Challenge, which is back for its fourth year.

There is a choice of three fantastic routes: 10k, 35 miles or the ultimate challenge of 75 miles. The Chilterns Cycle Challenge will start and finish at Kingsbury Square in Aylesbury where there will be music, refreshments and various stalls. And you may even see Fern Britton who is supporting the event again this year.

Registration fees include your Chilterns Cycle Challenge t-shirt, a medal on completion and water on route. Entry is £17 for adults, £10 for children (5 to 16) and is free for under 5's.

To find out more about the event and to register, visit: [www.renniegrove.org/chilternscycle](http://www.renniegrove.org/chilternscycle) or contact the team on 01442 820740.

# Community News & Events

## Aylesbury Parkrun

What's your New Year's resolution? Get fit? Live healthier? Have more fun? Meet new people? If so, help is at hand! Aylesbury has joined the worldwide phenomenon of Parkrun.



Aylesbury Parkrun is a free, 5k (3 mile) run at 9.00am every Saturday that is open to people of all ages and abilities. It is a run, not a race, and is ideal for those new to running or who need a bit of motivation to get out of bed on the weekend.

It takes place in the fields opposite the Quarrendon & Meadowcroft Community Centre, HP19 9HH.

Sign up at [www.parkrun.org.uk/aylesbury](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/aylesbury), or email: [aylesburyoffice@parkrun.com](mailto:aylesburyoffice@parkrun.com) for more information.



## Grandparents' Support Group

We are delighted to say that we had an excellent response to our market stall on 6th December held in Market Square, with many Aylesbury shoppers taking away our support group literature.

We spoke to lots of people, many who are grandparents, and some of which are denied contact with their own grandchildren. In a few hours we had over 200 signatures supporting the right for grandchildren to have contact with their grandparents (as long as it is safe to do so).

If you are denied contact with your grandchildren then please do come along to our meetings. We will listen to your story. We will understand your pain and loss. We will provide support, information and advice in a confidential environment.

Meetings are held throughout the year on the second Wednesday of each month at The Holiday Inn Hotel, Aston Clinton Road, Aylesbury, from 7.00pm. For more details please call 07949 640156.

### MEETING DATES 2014

12th March, 9th April, 14th May, 11th June,  
9th July, 13th August, 10th September,  
8th October, 12th November, 10th December

## Licensing HMOs:

Please tell us what you think



Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC) are considering introducing a scheme of licensing for houses in multiple occupation (HMOs) across the district.

HMOs include shared and bedsit-type houses that are occupied by three or more people who belong to two or more households – so it doesn't apply to ordinary family homes.

HMOs provide accommodation for a wide range of people but AVDC need to make sure that they are properly managed and maintained to offer a safe home for occupiers, meet all legal requirements and do not impact negatively on their neighbourhood.

Currently, landlords of all but the largest HMOs don't have to tell them that they are operating a HMO. The District Council only find out when there is a complaint about poor housing conditions or about noise, refuse accumulations, etc.

The scheme would require a HMO landlord to apply for a licence, and failure to do so may result in a substantial penalty. The licence lasts for up to 5 years and the licence fee would reflect the cost of operating the scheme – they are not allowed to make a profit.

The scheme would not prevent properties becoming HMOs but would improve safety and management standards, ensure licence holders are 'fit and proper persons' and control levels of occupation.

AVDC have posted details of the proposed scheme and a questionnaire on their website: [www.aylesburyvalecdc.gov.uk/hmoconsultation](http://www.aylesburyvalecdc.gov.uk/hmoconsultation) and would like your comments, whether you are a landlord, tenant, neighbour or resident with an interest.

If you don't have internet access, contact AVDC on 01296 585605 to arrange a paper copy. They would like your responses by 13th April 2014.

## Aylesbury Town Council encourages you to THINK LOCAL

There are many food producers in the Vale and in the wider area of Buckinghamshire. You will find good quality, high standards and great flavours throughout the region.

[www.food-on-our-doorstep.org.uk](http://www.food-on-our-doorstep.org.uk)  
[www.local-food.net](http://www.local-food.net)





## Blood Donation Sessions

The Methodist Church, Aylesbury  
Buckingham Street, HP20 2NQ

Friday 14th March, Friday 28th March  
Friday 2nd May, Friday 23rd May, Friday 6th June  
1.30pm - 3.30pm and 4.15pm - 7.00pm

The Walton Hall, Aylesbury  
Walton Street, HP21 7QX

Friday 7th March  
10.00am - 12.30pm and 1.45pm - 4.30pm

Friday 25th April  
1.30pm - 3.30pm and 4.15pm - 7.00pm

We welcome new and existing donors at the blood donation sessions in Aylesbury. We strongly advise that anyone who wants to give a donation makes an appointment beforehand.

This can be done by visiting our website:  
[www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk) or calling 0300 123 23 23.



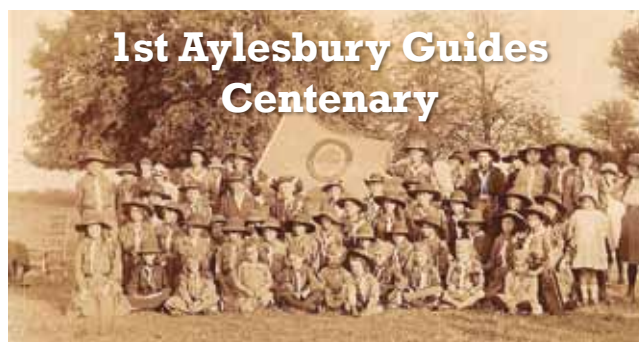
## New Volunteers Required

Connection Floating Support is a local charity offering housing related support within Buckinghamshire. We work with people to help them avoid homelessness and achieve independence. We provide a flexible, home visit based service to those living in owner occupied or rented accommodation.

To enable us to help more people for longer, we require volunteers to act as Independent Living Mentors. Independent Living Mentors visit clients on a weekly or fortnightly basis and may assist with a variety of tasks such as budgeting, opening letters, basic cooking skills, accessing training or employment, or accompanying clients to appointments or social activities.

We have opportunities throughout Bucks. No qualifications or experience is necessary. All we ask is that you are non judgemental, reliable and trustworthy. Training is provided and travel expenses are covered.

If you would like to find out more, please contact the Volunteer Co-ordinator: Emma El-Badaoui on 07799 110038 or email: [emmael-badaoui@connectionfs.org](mailto:emmael-badaoui@connectionfs.org)



## 1st Aylesbury Guides Centenary

The guiding movement began in 1909 when a small group of young women gatecrashed the Boy Scout rally at Crystal Palace Park in London and lobbied Robert Baden-Powell for 'something for the girls'. According to the Scout Gazette, ladies were '... not allowed to run, hurry, swim, ride a bike or even raise her arms above her head ...'.

The 1st Aylesbury (Lady Smyth's Own) Guides was the first unit to be opened in Buckinghamshire in 1913, the unit was officially registered at Guiding CHQ on 31st March 1914. Lady Helen Constance Smyth was Robert Baden-Powell's Aunt and lived in Stone House, Stone. She opened and ran the unit for many years.

Guiding continues to support over half a million members around the UK to make new friends, develop skills and achieve their full potential in a unique girl only space.

In the run up to our 100th birthday, the unit is still hugely successful with forty two members aged between 10 and 14 and a strong team of leaders. Our Guides complete GoForIts, Challenge and Interest badges, attend residential events and take part in a vast range of activities, recently including abseiling, water orbing, horse riding, scuba diving, sleeping in a museum and much more.

We have many celebrations planned including a reunion, creating a time capsule and a once in a lifetime trip to Switzerland this summer.

If you were a member of our unit (or know someone who was) please get in touch for details of our reunion on 31st March.

Email: [DebsFOL@aol.com](mailto:DebsFOL@aol.com) or call: 01296 484632.



Black and white photo taken at 1st Aylesbury Guides Camp at Walton Grange in 1915 and Scuba Diving 2013



# Aylesbury Town Council Ward Map

## Ward: Gatehouse



Cllr Stuart Jarvis  
07958 083519



Cllr Pat Jamieson  
01296 428275



Cllr Tuffail Hussain  
07886 295946

## Ward: Central



Cllr Steven Mitchell  
01296 392096



Cllr Barbara Russel  
01296 431314

## Ward: Elmhurst



Cllr Jenny Puddefoot  
01296 612461



Cllr Niknam Hussain  
01296 485847



Cllr Mohammed Amjad  
07956 803458

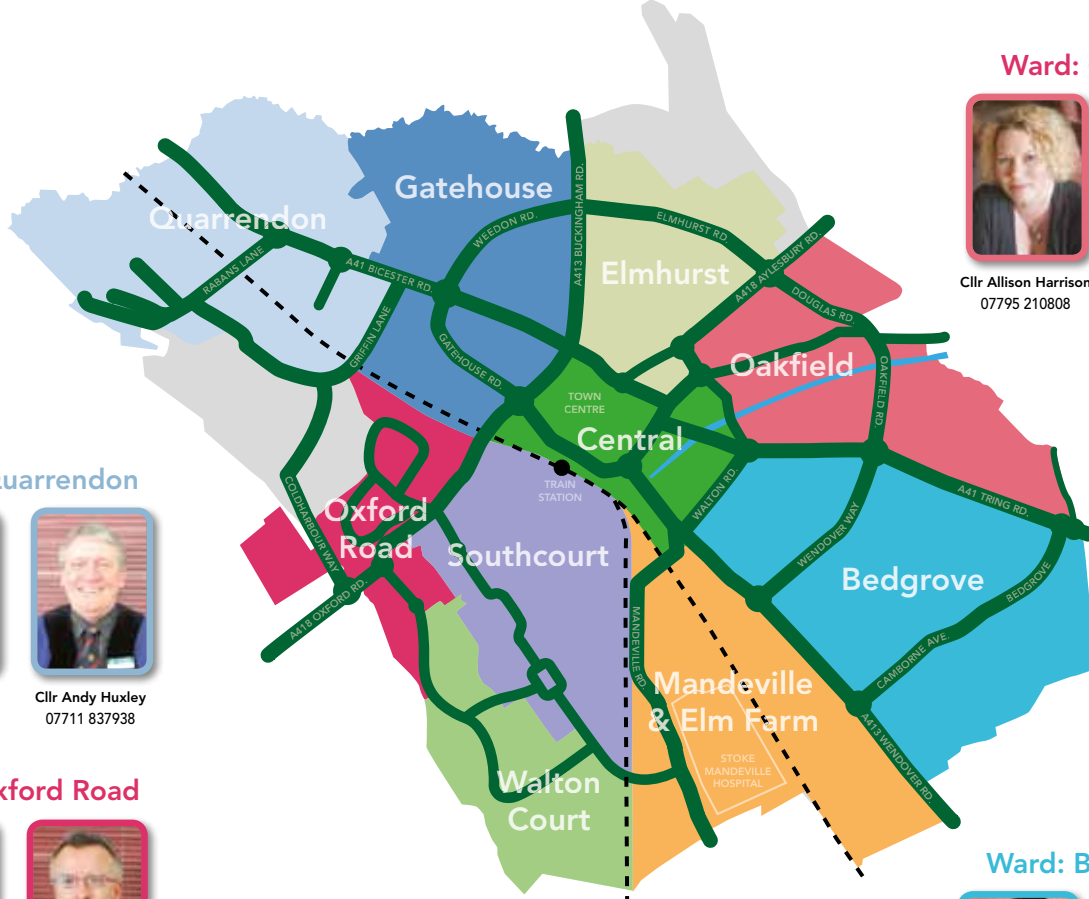
## Ward: Oakfield



Cllr Allison Harrison  
07795 210808



Cllr Mark Willis  
07723 091637



## Ward: Quarrendon



Cllr Chris Adams  
07986 543211



Cllr Andy Huxley  
07711 837938

## Ward: Oxford Road



Cllr Zulifqar 'Tom' Ahmed  
07731 328011



Cllr Mike Smith  
01296 484299

## Ward: Southcourt



Cllr Michael Beall  
01296 431499



Cllr Matthew Launchbury  
07837 604284

## Ward: Walton Court



Cllr Ranjula Takodra MBE  
07958 423083



Cllr Loui Cirillo  
07767 478696

## Ward: Bedgrove



Cllr Jenny Bloom  
07729 011501



Cllr Tom Hunter-Watts  
07595 178660

## Ward: Mandeville & Elm Farm



Cllr Denise Summers  
01296 424903



Cllr Sue Chapple  
01296 426814



Cllr Brian Roberts  
01296 422881



Cllr Penni Thorne  
01296 422232



Cllr Mark Winn  
01296 393304





## Did you know there are three Councils based in Aylesbury?



### AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**Aylesbury Town Council** is the council closest to the residents in the parish of Aylesbury. The Town Council is here to be a voice for the residents by representing their views on issues affecting them.

Aylesbury Town Council is responsible for:

- The Office of the Mayor and Mayoral engagements
- The management of the seven local allotment sites
- The Tring Road cemetery
- A programme of events throughout the year
- The award of grants to local groups and charities
- The free quarterly magazine, Aylesbury Town Matters
- Britain in Bloom (a partnership project) and Aylesbury in Bloom

Call: 01296 425 678 or visit: [www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk)

**Aylesbury Vale District Council** deal with issues covering the whole of Aylesbury Vale and has a very regulatory remit. AVDC is responsible for:

- The collection of Council Tax and business rates
- Household recycling and waste disposal
- Local planning and building regulations
- Public car parks
- Licensing and Environmental Health
- Leisure Services (including Aqua Vale and all parks)
- Award of grants to local groups and charities

Call: 01296 585 858 or visit: [www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk](http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk)



AYLESBURY VALE  
DISTRICT COUNCIL



**Bucks County Council** is the top tier of local government and provides services on a county-wide basis. Bucks County Council is responsible for:

- Highways
- Education and Libraries
- Social Services
- Trading Standards
- Registrar of births, deaths and marriages
- Waste disposal (excluding household waste)

Call: 01296 395 000 or visit: [www.buckscc.gov.uk](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk)



## Town Mayor's Update

It's been a busy few months for me, with a wide variety of engagements and events to attend. I've been much inspired by my visits to the faith, community and charitable organisations within the town. Our small churches and temples, our community pantos and friendly support groups – they're like hundreds of lights, hundreds of carefully tended lamps, and without them our town would be hugely diminished.

It's easy to feel lonely, even in a small town. We don't all know our neighbours or have friends to rely on. But there are opportunities in Aylesbury for anyone to find a fresh purpose in life, create a new network of friends, or play a part in something beautiful. And our community organisations are always very welcoming to new volunteers.

Over Christmas and the New Year I attended a variety of community shows and events. It's miraculous how a simple theatrical performance in a community centre can captivate an audience. There's nothing like live performance, and it's often a key part of the events organised by Aylesbury Town Council. As Mayor I've heard some superb singing and seen some wonderful theatre.

The Aylesbury Festival Choir gave a very moving performance at the Methodist Church. The choir of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, which has been a presence in the town for more than 50 years, sang beautifully at the Mayoral reception. My visit to the Indian Cultural Society Dinner was graced by a lovely performance of modern and traditional song. There seems to be so much talent and expertise in the town, so many places where beautiful things are being created. But choirs and musical groups are always looking for new members to come on board, especially younger people. The community arts are just as vital for the health of our town as the professional theatre.

Mandeville School has a very proud reputation for its music, not only within Aylesbury, but nationally. I have

been to three of their musical events, and each time I was impressed by the discipline of the performers and the quality of the music selected.

Following a suggestion from the late Cllr Steve Patrick, I have joined the Institute of Advanced Motorists and I am working with Aylesbury Advanced Motorists to promote safe and efficient driving within the town. I have been learning advanced driving techniques from trained and experienced instructors, and am looking forward to taking my practical test. There is no guarantee that I will pass, but I have been blogging my progress on the Town Council website, and hope to encourage other drivers to consider attempting the course.

An enormous portrait of a now largely forgotten poet hangs in the Town Hall. Henrietta Euphemia Tindal was born in 1817 and died in 1879. She was married to the Lord of the Manor of Aylesbury Acton Tindal and produced two books of poetry and a three volume historical novel. I try to promote a love of poetry and an interest in our town's history as part of my mayoral role. Perhaps it might be nice to end with a poem by Tindal, who imagines herself as an old lady, dreaming of past faces...

**Life flows on all busy round me,  
While beside the sea of fate,  
For the tide to bear me downward,  
In the calm of age I wait.  
And I am not sad nor lonely;  
Many visions round me crowd  
As I watch the smoke-wreaths passing,  
While the kettle singeth loud.  
Those who smiled upon my childhood  
Oft around my chair I see,  
Who, though grey-haired and world-weary,  
Yet grew young again in me!**

*from An Aged Lady, published in Lines and Leaves, and written at Prebendal House, Aylesbury in 1849*

**Mayor Cllr Tom Hunter-Watts**



**If you would like to invite the Mayor to attend an event you are holding, please contact the Mayor's Assistant Sue Carpenter at the Mayor's Office by calling 01296 425678 or email: [s.carpenter@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:s.carpenter@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk)**





International Wheelchair Basketball at Stoke Mandeville Stadium

## Our Paralympic Legacy

Aylesbury Town Clerk, Mr Keith Gray, is a member of the Buckinghamshire Legacy Board. The Town Council have been working in partnership with other stakeholders on some exciting events taking place in the town this year.

### The Buckinghamshire Legacy

The first ever sporting events for disabled people were hosted at Stoke Mandeville Stadium in Buckinghamshire by Dr Ludwig Guttmann in 1948. From this spark the global Paralympic Movement was born.

The Buckinghamshire Legacy Programme wants to ensure that the county that gave the world the Paralympic Movement continues to be at the forefront of the global innovation, by providing an environment that supports new and inclusive standards in sport, culture, health and education.

By doing so, it will attract new investment, develop our expertise and knowledge base, and provide new and improved opportunities for all residents and visitors to enjoy.

### Paralympic Heritage Flame 2014

As a boost to this ambition, Stoke Mandeville was given the honour by the International Paralympic Committee of being the first ever international leg of the 2014 Paralympics Games Torch Relay.

The Stoke Mandeville Heritage Flame is part of the Paralympic Games Opening Ceremonies in Russia, viewed by a global TV audience of billions.

The events this year are a tribute to the pioneering work undertaken by Sir Ludwig Guttmann at Stoke Mandeville Hospital. His work in helping establish the Paralympic Movement will be honoured by the International Paralympic Committee at all future Paralympic Games.

**For more information visit:**  
[www.buckslegacy.org](http://www.buckslegacy.org)

## Buckinghamshire Battalion

**A ceremony to lay up the standard of the Buckinghamshire Battalion (Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry) Old Comrades Association was held on Saturday 30 November 2013 at the TA Centre (Viney House) in Aylesbury.**

The ceremony was brought about by the disbanding of the Association due to the lack of numbers. The event was hosted by Mr Alan Grant, chairman of the Aylesbury branch of the Royal Green Jackets Regimental Association.

Guests of honour were HM Lord Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher, The Mayor of Aylesbury, Councillor Tom Hunter-Watts, and Major General Patrick Sanders (Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff). Among the other guests was Major Nigel Viney, who joined the Battalion as a platoon commander in 1941 and was seconded to the Somali Scouts in East Africa. He is now the senior surviving Buckinghamshire Battalion veteran.

Other veterans in attendance were "Tich" Raynor, a member of the glider crew that secured Pegasus Bridge on D-Day, and Derek Hawes who was captured at Hazebrouck, France in 1940 and spent a number of years as a POW. Many of the other guests were relatives of former members of the Association.

The standard has been paraded for many years in the town and the surrounding areas at military and civic functions, particularly on Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday. Viney House was chosen as the location for the standard because of its link with the Viney family. Six of the family members served with the Buckinghamshire Battalion during the two world wars.

The standard was unveiled by HM Lord Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire who was accompanied by Major General Patrick Sanders and Major Nigel Viney. The Mayor of Aylesbury laid a poppy wreath on behalf of the Buckinghamshire Battalion, accompanied by Sgt Raynor and Pte Hawes.



Standing l-r: Alan Grant and Major General Patrick Sanders, Seated l-r: HM Lord Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher, Derek Hawes, Maj Nigel Viney and Raymond "Tich" Raynor

# Activities for Young People



## Research Leads to Results!

In 2006 Aylesbury Vale Youth For Christ (AVYFC), a local youth charity, conducted research into the needs of youth and community. This research inspired a number of new projects across the Aylesbury town and neighbouring areas. This article shares the results of the initial survey and highlights the youth and community projects that have been set in motion since 2006. The research also included statistics and results from the national Census.

You can see the whole report online at:

[www.avyfc.org.uk/research/avyfc\\_research\\_2006.pdf](http://www.avyfc.org.uk/research/avyfc_research_2006.pdf)

There were five needs identified in 2006:

**Need 1: To find venues that will provide affordable places for young people to hang out.** The venues should be in a central location, so that young people can “drop-in” and have the opportunity to form natural relationships between students from different schools. The venues will be dependent on volunteers and access to affordable space. They are an opportunity for adults to be supportive role models and build cross-generational relationships.

**Need 2: To seek opportunities for community members to interact on a large scale to strengthen social cohesion.** Affordable family fun days and festivals could help bring people in the community together, and are an opportunity for families to spend more quality time together.

**Need 3: To find ways of bridging the gap between younger and older members of the community.** One project idea was to encourage young people working with war veterans. The aim was to impact young people and help give the older and younger generations value for each other.

**Need 4: There is an immediate need for better communication of the services we already have.** We need to encourage a forum for both voluntary and statutory organisations to meet, network and seek out ways of communicating their services. The forum can be a place to network and explore ways of working together and sharing resources, as well as celebrating those services that are already working well.

**Need 5: To explore ways for the community to help young people find creative things to do.** For example, by holding regular “youth music band” gigs, which would encourage young people to participate or attend. Many young people have an interest in music in the town, and since Aylesbury was once known for popular live music concerts, it might help the town regain that identity.

## What has happened since 2006?

### Activities for Youth

Over twenty youth cafés and youth groups have been set-up locally since 2006; open to all young people who are of secondary school age. They offer a safe place for young people to spend time after school, meet new friends and enjoy a variety of activities. You can find out more by visiting: [www.youthcafé.info/aylesbury](http://www.youthcafé.info/aylesbury)

### Family Fun Days and Festivals

In 2007 AVYFC organised its first Free Family Funday in Vale Park in partnership with the Aylesbury Church Network and AVDC. Since then, the festival planning team have partnered with other local councils and organisations to run events in Vale Park and Southcourt. Vale Park Funday became one of only fifty official live site events across the county during the 2012 games. And the Aylesbury Church Network organised a festival at Stoke Mandeville Stadium during the opening night of the Paralympics.

*Rev Dave Lawton, Vicar of Church of the Good Shepherd, Southcourt: “AVYFC pioneered the idea of the local free family festivals. In Southcourt, it has helped to create community on the day and it has also helped to foster networks of friendships that have carried on. The family festivals have promoted an increased sense of belonging to the local community, encouraging collaboration between groups and individuals.” January 2014*

### Events to Publicise Local Activities for Young People

In 2007/08 youth events were organised at Aylesbury Civic Centre to give youth organisations the opportunity to advertise what they offer. Many young people helped organise the events, and Bucks County Council helped



# Activities for Young People



make the event a success. Local organisations continued to meet regularly to share ideas and resources. AVDC helped facilitate this, introducing an action plan shared by all the organisations. This has led to more partnership opportunities and projects such as cultural events, intergenerational work and targeted youth work.

**Brian Roberts**, County Councillor and Chairman of the Greater Aylesbury Local Area Forum: "The Greater Aylesbury Local Area Forum has partnered with AVYFC through the Youth Forum, and also supported the excellent range of diversionary activities for young people that AVYFC run. Both these and the youth café enable young people to volunteer to help other young people." January 2014

## Creative Activities for Young People

The Southcourt Studios project was launched in 2009. In the heart of Southcourt, it offers young people a place to create, practice and record music, as well as organising gigs and music events in the town. The Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust and the Town Council have been significant supporters of the project. The Aylesbury Vale Arts Council have supported a new project enabling young people to create their own music video. To find out more about the studio visit the website: [www.southcourtstudios.com](http://www.southcourtstudios.com)

Quote from **Rt Hon David Lidington**, Member of Parliament for Aylesbury: "I was delighted to learn that Aylesbury Vale Youth For Christ have decided to conduct a new research report into the needs of young people and the community. Clearly the report had an impact as since 2006 over twenty youth cafés have opened across Aylesbury Vale as well as a new recording studio in Southcourt, which I attended the opening of. AVYFC is showing through its work its commitment to strengthen community life in Aylesbury and to reach out to people who feel marginalised in our society." January 2014

**Dave Rollins**, Director of AVYFC  
Registered Charity No. 1055282

## Have Your Say Today!

The local Youth Forums are now conducting a new survey. The questions are listed below, so you can post your response to AVYFC Research, CGS, Church Square, Churchill Avenue, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 8NH.

Or have your say online at the following website: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/needs-of-youth-and-community-2014](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/needs-of-youth-and-community-2014) or at [www.youthforum.co.uk/research2014](http://www.youthforum.co.uk/research2014)

### 2014 Survey Questions:

What is your age?

What is the name of your town or village?

What is your general impression of where you live?

What would you like to celebrate about where you live?

What would you like to see strengthened in your community?

How are young people perceived?

What are the needs of young people in your area?

Do you have any concerns for or about young people?

What activities or services are available for young people?

In a year's time what would you like to see changed in the community?

If there were no limitations, over the next 5 years, what would be your future dreams, plans or hopes for young people and the community?

The results will be published in October 2014 and available online and in print. If you would like to receive a copy, please also tell us your name, address or email address.

The youth forum will also be conducting video interviews, so if you would like to be involved email us at: [team@youthforum.co.uk](mailto:team@youthforum.co.uk). There will also be a number of community events where you will have the opportunity to share your views!



# Schools

Welcome to our second schools page! This page is your platform to tell us your news. We'd love to hear all about your school clubs, exciting events, special achievements and future plans. This issue features the fantastic fundraising by John Colet Secondary School in Wendover. If you'd like to be featured next time, please get in touch with Barbara on 01296 425678 or email: [b.cunningham@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:b.cunningham@aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk).



Members of the School Council plus Andrea and Tara McEvoy

## John Colet Students Happy to Help

**Students from the John Colet School, in Wendover, ended 2013 on a high, as they presented a cheque to Andrea McEvoy and her three year old daughter Tara from local charity Sparkles. The pupils and staff raised £3,052 during the ever-popular annual fundraiser 'Help Week'.**

'Help Week' has been a firm favourite in the John Colet academic calendar for the last nine years, and in total has raised in excess of £25,000. Each year a different charity is chosen to benefit from the proceeds.

Sparkles is a local charity that provides speech therapy for children with Down's Syndrome. The charity's aim is to address the challenges of speech production, expressive language and communication associated with Down's Syndrome. Supported by their parents, children work in small groups led by a Speech and Language Therapist to learn strategies and activities which can be used at home to develop

communication skills. Weekly sessions also give parents the opportunity to meet other families.

Andrea was thrilled to accept the cheque on behalf of Sparkles, she said: "Tara has been attending Sparkles since she was 16 months, and it has been invaluable in her development. The students have worked so hard to raise this amazing amount of money. This fantastic total will fund a term of speech therapy for twenty one children. Everyone at Sparkles will be incredibly grateful."

Help Week is organised by the School Council, which is made up of pupils from each year group. Activities taking place during the week include a cake sale, soak the teacher, a talent show and the Friday fancy dress day with both pupils and staff getting involved.

**For more information on Sparkles visit their website at: [www.sparkles.org.uk](http://www.sparkles.org.uk)**



## ATC invites your comments and correspondence

If you have thoughts about the town we'd like you to express them through this magazine. What do you think of the events that take place in the town centre? How do you feel about the town in general? Do you have fresh ideas? What bothers you? We'd like to know.

You can send an email marked 'ATM Letters' to: [info@aylesburytowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:info@aylesburytowncouncil.co.uk) or write to us at: **Aylesbury Town Matters Correspondence, Aylesbury Town Council, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2QP**



## London Wasps Community Foundation relocate to Aylesbury Vale

Following their office move from Adams Park Stadium in High Wycombe to Aylesbury Rugby Football Club in Weston Turville, we spoke to London Wasps Community Rugby Manager Dave Larham.



The London Wasps Community Foundation's aim is a simple one: "To educate, motivate and inspire people through the power of sport". Their office move to the new clubhouse at Aylesbury RFC's Ostlers Field will include a commitment from London Wasps to the Aylesbury Vale community through long-term projects that contain focused purpose and outcomes.

The community will benefit from the activities in schools and clubs, and once the outcomes have been achieved, the engagement vehicle of rugby will allow London Wasps to further their aims of developing their brand and corporate reputation.

London Wasps have been active in the Aylesbury Vale for over ten years within local schools and have delivered many community programmes. During this period, the partnership between London Wasps and Aylesbury RFC has developed and flourished.

Currently Sam Jones, a former Aylesbury RFC youth player and Aylesbury Grammar School pupil, plays in the London Wasps team and regularly supports their community programmes.

Several of the senior and youth players at Aylesbury RFC have benefitted from receiving coaching from London Wasps, as well as supporting their games at Adams Park Stadium over the years.

The London Wasps Community Rugby Manager Dave Larham is also the Head Coach at Aylesbury RFC and lives in Walton Court. He said: "We looked at several office locations, but it was the outstanding facilities at Aylesbury RFC and the opportunity to work with their membership that made the decision easy. The new office allows us to remain central to our community, but also means that we have on-site pitches to be able to increase our programmes. I am hoping that the Aylesbury Vale community will benefit from our relocation and offer their support to London Wasps."



**"At London Wasps we recognise the importance of our Community Programmes and the responsibility that we have as professional players and staff to be positive role models and ambassadors for our sport and our club. We are delighted that our projects reach so many young people and adults from all backgrounds in our community. It is important that we continue to generate new interest in rugby participation and sustainable support for London Wasps."**

**David Young Director of Rugby, London Wasps**

# Art & Leisure



## Bucks Open Studios

The Visual Images Group (VIG), an alliance of 600 artists and makers living and working in Buckinghamshire, has announced that it will again be organising its members into the annual Bucks Open Studios. Now in its 29th year, Bucks Open Studios is the largest visual arts event in Buckinghamshire and one of the largest in the country, and it will take place from 7th to 22nd June.

Over 500 artists and makers from the county – including painters, glass workers, basket weavers, metal workers, wood turners, jewellery makers, book makers, print makers and silk makers – will be opening their studios to the public for free and showcasing their talent through demonstrations, exhibitions and workshops.

Bob and Ann Marshall, the new Joint Chairs of the Visual Images Group said: “We look forward to our new role as Joint Chairs. Bucks Open Studios has grown in every way year on year – more participants, more venues, and more visitors – and we want to make sure that it continues to gain in popularity with the public. Artists and makers in Buckinghamshire are very grateful for the support that they receive from the public and we are sure that Bucks Open Studios will continue to prosper.”

They continued: “There is an amazing wealth of talent within Buckinghamshire, and Bucks Open Studios covers a vast array of artistic disciplines and levels of involvement – from professional artists with international reputations to passionate hobbyists. So whether you are an art enthusiast or just fancy an interesting day out, you can talk directly to the artists about their work, watch demonstrations and even be inspired to take up a new hobby.”

**To find out more about Bucks Open Studios please visit [www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk](http://www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk)**



## WanderHouse at QPC

With support from the Arts Council, and in memory of Amanda Burton, Pippa North and the Queens Park Arts Centre have developed an exciting new project for children and young people. As the centre’s Artist in Residence, Pippa created and built the WanderHouse – a bespoke handcrafted mobile art unit that will delight and inspire all who cross its path.

Highlighting and utilising the skills and expertise of the centre’s talented tutors and artists, the WanderHouse is a collaborative, participatory, socially engaging arts project which reaches out into the community.

The WanderHouse will be used in local schools and community settings to help children and young people explore their own creativity and imagination, enabling access to high quality arts and craft experiences and cultural engagement.

The launch of WanderHouse was celebrated at QPC in December, and throughout the pantomime run, two of the centre’s galleries exhibited work which contributed to the project. Inspired by folk tales and fairy tales, as well as a wealth of personal stories, each element of last year’s exhibition has been combined with the mobile unit as it travels through the Vale.

**For more information visit [www.qpc.org](http://www.qpc.org)**







## Activate Youth Dance Festival

Activate, held at the Waterside Theatre, returns this year on **26th and 27th April** due to high demand and popularity. Groups from across Aylesbury Vale, Buckinghamshire and the wider South East will perform a variety of styles from street dance to contemporary and everything in between.

During Easter a parkour project is being run to create a performance piece for the Sunday night show.

Information about the workshop and which groups are performing on each night can be found at [www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/activate](http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/activate). Tickets for the performances cost £12 or £9, available from the Waterside Theatre box office.

## Flexible Childcare over the Easter Holidays

The **Jonathan Page Play Centre** offers a purpose built centre with excellent facilities, has qualified, experienced and DBS/CRB checked staff, a secure outdoor play area and a mixture of structured and free choice activities every day.

The play scheme is open from **7th to 22nd April** and will be based on the great outdoors. The centre's friendly staff guarantee that every day is bursting full of fun activities to entertain the most creative, sporty, adventurous and imaginative children.

For more information please visit the website: [www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/jppc](http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/jppc) or call **01296 426139** (between 2.00pm and 6.00pm weekdays) or email: [jpplaycentre@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk](mailto:jpplaycentre@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk)

## Lights, Camera, Aylesbury!

Everyone loves a good movie or seeing the latest play or musical in town, but if you'd prefer to be in the show rather than just watch it, The Aylesbury Anthology Project may be just the ticket for you!

The **Aylesbury Anthology Project** is a local project that will create a number of performing arts opportunities within Aylesbury. The project, which is currently in development, will see a series of short films shot locally, as well as a supporting documentary and other activities to help promote and boost the local performing arts and filmmaking scene.

With support from the Aylesbury Vale Arts Council, the project was developed by local actor and director David Pustansky, who trained professionally at Drama Studio London and has been a resident of Aylesbury for most of his life. "As an actor in Aylesbury I found that most of the opportunities to perform required me to travel to London, Oxford or other parts of the country. I'd done a few projects locally and met some really talented performers and crew, and it made me want to create more opportunities to work with performers in Aylesbury."

The project will be looking for all kinds of other creative minds to contribute. So as well as professional and aspiring actors, this will include musicians, designers, make-up artists, and other film and stage crew. There'll be lots of opportunities to contribute and network with other likeminded creatives.

For more information on the project, including details of how you can apply to be involved please visit [www.aylesburyanthology.co.uk](http://www.aylesburyanthology.co.uk)



## Aylesbury Choral Society

Aylesbury Choral Society performs three concerts a year; Christmas music in December, traditional choral works with orchestra at Easter and a light-hearted programme in the summer. Their Easter concert takes place on **12th April at St Mary's Church, Aylesbury**. Programme includes Dvorak's Mass in D, Part Songs and Slavonic Dances for piano duet. Tickets will be available from the ticket secretary on **01296 640915**.



Any of you who have attended the highly popular 'Proms in the Park' will know that it is performed by Aylesbury's own award winning band, Aylesbury Concert Band (ACB). ACB are holding a concert in Aylesbury on **Saturday 3rd May**. Entitled "Swing into Spring" it should get you in the mood for dancing – or at least get your feet tapping! (See the band website: [www.aylesburyband.org](http://www.aylesburyband.org) for more details).

ACB is an amateur concert band, based in Aylesbury with band members primarily drawn from the local community. However, its reputation is such that members come from the north of the county and across the county boundaries, driving from Greater London, Oxfordshire, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire to the weekly rehearsals.

Currently under the baton of Claire Lawrence, a professional musician with the RAF, the band's aim is to provide an opportunity for members of the community to pursue their musical interests and provide popular entertainment for the people of Aylesbury. The band prides itself on working with instrumentalists to help them make the most of their skills. Members range in age from teenagers to the over 70s and are drawn from all walks of life.

Aylesbury should be proud of the band – in the past ACB has won gold and silver medals at the National Wind Band Festival, and in 2012 narrowly missed winning platinum. In fact, the band's performance was of such a high standard it was invited to play at the National Final at the Birmingham Conservatoire in April 2013. This was a real honour – only the very best bands from the regional festivals are invited to play.

The band regularly gives concerts and plays at fêtes – such as the annual Fairford Leys fête – civic functions and church services in Aylesbury and the surrounding area. If you haven't heard them play and would like to, information about ACB concerts is available from the Aylesbury Visitor Information Centre, King's Head Passage off Market Square. Advance ticket sales are also available from here.



## The Fremantle Trust

Award winning care and nursing service provider The Fremantle Trust to open latest state of the art care home in Stoke Mandeville.

The Fremantle Trust's new luxury 90 place flagship care home, Fremantle Court, has been designed with one purpose in mind – to provide a happy, comfortable, desirable and safe place to live; a place where people can feel content and completely 'at home'.

Everything from the very careful selection and training of the staff team, to the considered design of the building (built to meet Stirling University's nationally recognised Gold Standard in dementia care design), with attention to numerous small environmental details, has been expertly planned to make living here a real pleasure.

For Fremantle, one of the most important things is that the people receiving care remain in control of their own future. Therefore residents are consulted in every aspect of their care, so that they can live their lives here with true respect and dignity.

In short, we will do everything we can to ensure that residents are able to continue to live the kind of lifestyle they wish.

Chief Executive Carole Sawyers added "We have already put in place our fabulous care team, who, like all those at our other Fremantle services, are committed to providing the highest quality of care for future residents, who I know will really feel at home at Fremantle Court".

The newly appointed Manager, Jan Lovett, recently won 'Registered Manager of the Year Award' at the Great London Care Awards 2013 in her previous role as manager at Fremantle's Apthorp Lodge in the London Borough of Barnet.

**For more information on this or any of our Fremantle services, please visit: [www.fremantletrust.org](http://www.fremantletrust.org)**  
**To arrange a Care Consultation please call our Family Liaison Manager: Cathy Charles on 07867 455 899.**



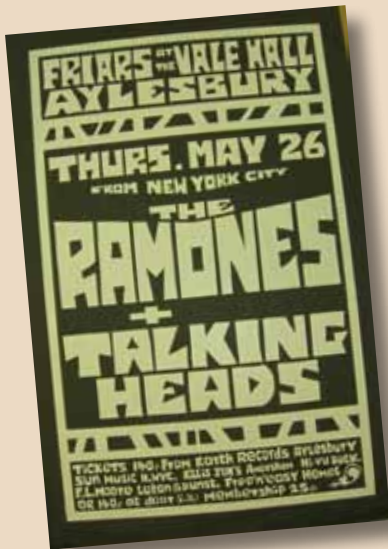


## Chiltern Hills Vintage Vehicle Rally

The Chiltern Hills Rally is held annually on the third Sunday in May, this year being the 18th May. It is run by a group of Aylesbury people, with funds from classic vehicle owners who enter their vehicles, trades, catering and programme advertisers collectively. It raises a decent sum of money every year which is donated to good local causes, such as Florence Nightingale, Ian Rennie Hospice, schools and homes. For more than twenty years this rally has contributed over £250,000 to Aylesbury Vale and surrounding areas.

We often get told that 'my car isn't good enough' to be in a show, but every car is welcome, it's not that kind of show – people just want to see your car whatever the condition. We have tractors, buses, vans, scooters and military vehicles. It's not just a car show. There is a dog show, children's rides, auto jumble and much more.

This year would have been the 21st rally if we hadn't had to cancel the 2012 rally due to the excess rain, so it will be the 20th and we have a new larger venue and better parking facilities at Weedon, next to the Bucks County Showground. You can see all this information and get in touch on the website, [www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk](http://www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk), or call 01296 337087.



## Friars Aylesbury

– the local music club that rocked the world

With over 93,000 members Friars Aylesbury is the biggest music club in Europe. This major exhibition at Buckinghamshire County Museum celebrates this legendary club that has played such an important part in the history and culture of Aylesbury and holds such a unique place in people's memories.

Friars was founded in 1969 and ran until 1984 and is universally acknowledged as having played an important part in the careers of David Bowie, Genesis, Mott the Hoople and many others. More recently the club returned in 2009 to celebrate its 40th anniversary and it continues today with gigs at the Waterside Theatre.

The exhibition features posters, photographs and memorabilia from the Friars extensive archive, as well as unique items on loan from artists who have performed at Friars. Audio and audio visual elements bring the exhibition to life and Friars members and artists have been specially recorded talking about their memories of Friars.

The exhibition opens on 1 March and runs until 5 July. For ticket prices and booking details visit: [www.buckscc.gov.uk/museum](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/museum) or [www.aylesburyfriars.co.uk](http://www.aylesburyfriars.co.uk) or call 01296 331441 for further information. Buckinghamshire County Museum, Church Street, HP20 2QP.

## A BIG Walk in the Company of Friends!

The PACE Centre in Aylesbury, the region's leading charity for children with disability, would like you to celebrate another year of PACE's story, and to honour the courage and determination of the children at PACE by taking part in our annual BIG Walk on Saturday 10th May, 8.00am to 5.00pm – which this year uses the Wychert Way, starting at Dinton.

It was way back in 1990 that the PACE story first began in a small farm building in the village. The circular walk is 20 miles long, and suitable for all. Every walker will be guided and fully supported on route, and whatever you raise in completing this challenge will go towards PACE's brand new Early Years Service at 156 Wendover Road.

Sign up is FREE, and easy. Email: [fundraising@thepacecentre.org](mailto:fundraising@thepacecentre.org) or call Simon on 01296 616973. To read more about PACE visit [www.thepacecentre.org](http://www.thepacecentre.org).





# St George's Day Celebrations



**Sunday 27th April 2014**

**11.00am - 4.00pm  
Market Square**

Celebrate the day with traditional dance, music, activities and much more fun.

**Scout Parade & Service  
Market Square, 2.40pm**

Representatives from the Scout Association parade through the town in celebration of St George, the Patron Saint of Scouts, before taking part in a service at St Mary's Church.



[www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.aylesburytowncouncil.gov.uk)

